

DECISION RECORD

EA LOG No.: OR-010-2004-09

Applicant: Lakeview BLM

Address: 1301 South G Street, Lakeview, OR 97630 County: Lake

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Decision:

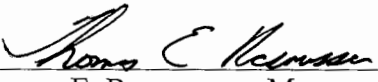
The decision of the Bureau is to implement the preferred alternative (2), as described in EA# OR-010-2004-09, to place temporary horse traps and/or holding facilities within WSAs in the Lakeview Resource Area during periodic wild horse gathers, as necessary for the health and safety of horses within and adjacent to the Beaty Butte and Paisley Herd Management Areas (HMAs). The conditions for gathering strategies and fertility control options have previously been analyzed in EA# OR-010-95-10 and OR-010-200-01. The decisions resulting from those analyses remain in effect and are not being revisited here.

The first gather requiring temporary traps or holding facilities within WSAs will occur in the Beaty Butte HMA in August of 2004. This decision to locate temporary traps/facilities in WSAs during this gather becomes effective on July 29, 2004, as provided in 43 CFR 4770(c). However, this decision will also be long term in duration and will be implemented during future horse gathers, as needed (when there are safety issues for the horses).

Rationale:

The Preferred Alternative (2) would allow additional flexibility in the gathering of excess, wild horses within the 2 HMAs, as well as horses outside HMAs. The preferred alternative would best meet the objective of restoring and maintaining the range in a thriving ecological balance and other multiple uses, as required by the Wild Horse and Burro Act, while providing additional safety for the horses during gather operations.

The EA and FONSI were mailed out interested public, tribes, agencies, and wilderness interest groups and were made available on the Lakeview District web site. No comment letters were received during the 15 day comment period. Based on the analysis contained in the EA and all other information available to me, it is my decision to proceed with the action as described above.


Thomas E. Rasmussen, Manager

Date 7/29/04